

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

LAURIMAR PRIMARY SCHOOL



School No: 5497

School Principal: Jason McBean

School Council President: Adam Clarke

Learning - **P**artnerships – **S**uccess

2018 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The end of 2018 marks a decade in education here at our school where we can celebrate many wonderful accomplishments through this time. It is hard to believe that 10 full and successful years in education at Laurimar Primary has now been completed since local MP, Danielle Green rang the very first bell to commence classes in February 2009. The 2018 school year was a wonderful opportunity for all stakeholders to achieve success and strong academic and personal growth for each and every student at Laurimar Primary School. Our goal to provide rich and varied educational achievement and opportunities for each child was a major focus. The year was highlighted by a broad range of educational opportunities provided to our highly engaged students through passionate teaching staff who constantly challenge themselves to be better educators. Personalised teaching and learning with a focus on our strong literacy and numeracy programs continued to be a feature, allowing the time and space for our teachers to deliver high quality content around our new whole school spelling program based on 'Sound Waves'. We further developed our CAFÉ Reading Strategies and VOICES writing structure which was introduced as a result of targeted and specific professional development initiatives. We continued to consolidate the knowledge and skills taught by educational consultant, Kathy Palmer through our Numeracy Program, which continued to deepen teacher capacity, encourage consistency of content across year levels through detailed planning and a rich understanding across Prep-6.

We have continued to deliver and enhance engaging educational programs and priorities, which respond to the directions of the Department of Education and Training (DET) under the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes. We continued to embed Education State priorities such as the Literacy and Numeracy Strategy and High Impact Teaching Strategies with a particular emphasis on 'Feedback'. We were able to further develop our school's focus on 'Building Practice Excellence' and 'Empowering Students to Build School Pride' through professional learning and targeted activities. 2018 saw us complete our 2nd year of our 4-year Strategic Plan. We also drew upon strategies that foster connectedness between our school and each family with a strong emphasis on building relationships between staff, students and families.

Through all learning programs, our core 10 hours of literacy (Sound Waves Phonemic Approach, CAFÉ Reading Program and VOICES structure writing) and 5 hours of numeracy each week, aim to build proficiency across these important curriculum areas. Throughout 2018, we also introduced our new STEM Learning Centre that enables students to creatively explore, enhance their engagement and delve deeper into the world of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. We were once again very proud that through the Laurimar, Doreen and wider community that we are known as a Dynamic Educational Institution that creates a strong academic language around learning architecture when it comes to our student success and provide excellence in Primary Education for ALL students and families in Prep-6.

Our school's specific learning programs, detailed curriculum and opportunities provided through the year has been diverse and extensive for our community. We continued with a strong commitment to our growth coaching model which allowed for 5 Leading Teachers (Teaching and Learning Leaders) to coach, model, challenge, reflect, inspire, build pedagogical knowledge and support teachers in being able to focus on their classroom practice and delivering consistency of practice for students. To complement effective teaching, we were also able to offer our strong Clubs program initiative, Energy Breakthrough Program in Maryborough in the Human Powered

Vehicle Event, Wakikirri Music Production, Diverse Arts program, Physical and Sport Education program, Chinese Mandarin program encompassing our China Exchange Trip and a focussed and strong Social and Emotional Learning program based on YCDI! Education. All programs and teacher delivery within them aim to inspire through a multitude of engaging activities and strategies. In 2018, we were once again able to cater for and provide the maximum amount of diverse learning opportunities and broad range of extra-curricular activities available for all students throughout the year.

There were certainly many memorable highlights throughout the 2018 school year of which I have detailed further in this report.

The successes achieved during the 2018 school year was once again attributed to the large team of hard working professional teaching staff, education support, STRIVE team and OSHC staff whom work tirelessly to engage, teach, motivate and inspire our students during each available session every day. At LPS, our staff adopt the attitude of 'Every Minute Counts' to maximise the learning opportunities for all students. Our professional staff aim to make a positive difference, build confidence and add value to every student in their care, which is a unique feature of our school culture. As a school, we will always work hard to maintain this commitment by employing the best possible teachers through a rigorous recruiting process for each position made available. Throughout 2018, we were able to create within our workforce, an excellent blend of dedicated staff possessing a strong work ethic and commitment to the teaching profession and indeed to our school. I would personally like to congratulate all members of our leadership team in 2018 who go over and above and are committed to reaching our overarching school goals and Key Improvement Areas from our School Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan. They work tirelessly providing fantastic support, professionalism, ideas, innovation, care, direction, reflection and advice along the way and are greatly respected, appreciated and valued. Many thanks must go to my incredible Assistant Principals Mrs Deb Purser, Ms Justine Convery (Term 4) and Mrs Marg Chapman for their second to none educational knowledge, work ethic, support, advice and professionalism each and every day throughout the year. Throughout 2018, we once again had solid consistency within the leadership team at Laurimar Primary as each member continues to practise, strengthen and build their individual leadership capacity and experience for the betterment of all members of our community. All members worked seamlessly and collaboratively as a team to set a clear direction for our school throughout the year.

Our team of inspirational office administrators include Christine, Sam, Joyce, Sue, Caroline, Julie and Jess. We could not possibly ask for a more caring, professional, dedicated, thorough and hardworking team where they all strive hard to get through each frenetic day in the front office area. Their calmness, composure under fire welcoming nature, poise and dedication is a great credit to them all. We thank them for their high level of care and work for all school community stakeholders and in particular to our students every day. We are all so lucky!

I would also like to thank all Professional Learning Team Curriculum and Operations and Welfare Leaders for their hard work, drive, strength, energy, support and contributions within each PLT across the school throughout the year. I would like to say a huge thank you to all teaching staff who make it happen in their classrooms each and every day on the frontline with your students and parents. They are all simply inspiring teachers and staff and are highly valued professionals within the education sector. This work is immensely appreciated! They all set the learning architecture, attitude and learning goals for your students and strive for continuous improvement in each session for your students. I would like to particularly note the hard work, focus and high impact from educational support staff on their excellent work, dedication, support for teachers, their passion for

children and education, high-levels of energy, strong impact and commitment throughout the 2018 school year to achieve the success that we had. It certainly is a large team effort at LPS and takes the entire school and village to educate and support each child.

Throughout the 2018 school year, there were once again so many areas and examples of where our committed and supportive parent body within our school community were involved with their positive impact. Without this support, we would not be in a position to provide our students with the large range of stimulating experiences and vast educational opportunities that were a feature throughout the year. The diverse and broad range of excursions, incursions, camps, committees, sub committees, China Exchange, whole school celebrations and sporting events could not be possible without the generous volunteer support from our parents and helpers each and every day. Thank you also to the large number of parents who assisted the teachers in a variety of ways including school working bees, Town Fair Committee and classroom roster support, Parent Helpers within the classroom to help improve the learning outcomes for our students, social events or fundraisers. The support and continued investment from you all is much appreciated by the entire school community at Laurimar and we look to build upon this strong platform in 2019.

I again want to take this opportunity to acknowledge our highly professional, diligent and hardworking Business Manager, Christine Kalogirou. The scope and importance of her work is pivotal as she continues to help lead multiple areas across our school. Daily, Christine is 'There' for all staff as she 'Chooses her Attitude' epitomising our Fish Philosophy foundations and is a wonderful role model to all. Chris is such a huge asset to all within our school and always completes her tasks with a beautiful smile and the most positive outlook maintaining a light hearted and fundamental approach to her work. I cannot begin to thank Chris enough for her ongoing support, friendship and advice in which she provides to all of us on a day to day basis.

The unheralded support from all teachers, parents and students underpins our school logo which is about 'Partnerships' between our students, staff, parents and the broader community to improve student outcomes. Partnerships - Learning - Success! Congratulations on a fine team effort everyone in 2018!

We were able to further embed our culture of our sustainable transport program throughout 2018. This has been a large focus of LPS since opening our doors back in 2009. We were able to complete our 40th whole school Ride to School day and 40th Walk to School day which helps to reinforce this unique aspect of our school. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Sustainable Transport ambassador Matt Karamatinas and his support team led by Ms Elyse Martin, dedicated parents who help to drive and embed the culture and all staff who get behind this program by meeting at the designated points in all weather conditions. The commitment from staff helped drive and ensure our sustainable transport culture was an outstanding success at Laurimar in 2018 and we hope to continue this momentum for many years to come. Congratulations to all on continuing to reinforce strong safety messages around our community for our students, siblings and parents and set the positive narrative around correct etiquette and road use.

Many thanks to our second hand uniform leaders who once again kindly provided this service by our dedicated volunteers in Amanda Moad and Yvette Mac. We thank them for their enormous work, giving up their time, organisation, contributions and involvement in providing this important service for the benefit of our students' families. Such wonderful support

Congratulations must go to our brilliantly hard working canteen manager, Mrs Julie Hazelden and her dedicated band of workers in Jacinda Clarke and Lois Johnston for their canteen success

throughout 2018. They were also able to call on the support of our grade 6 volunteers which is greatly appreciated and acknowledged as they demonstrate their community service skills and fine leadership. Our canteen is a service that is offered to our parents, students and staff and is of the highest quality, variety and choice for our students and staff. The professionalism and attitude led by Julie and her team is a highlight of our school. Julie's dedication and support in planning, preparing and providing a diverse range of morning teas across the year demonstrates her willingness to support whole school activities and events. Her passion and dedication to her work to provide this variety and service is simply amazing. Congratulations to Julie and the team for the fine success in 2018 and we look forward to an even bigger and stronger 2019.

All things technology and our student 1-1 iPad program continue to be supported by our wonderful technicians John Gerrard and Adrian Szekeres. Once again, their high-level technical expertise, professionalism, knowledge and hard work ensure things are running effectively and smoothly for all staff and students across the school with all things technological. Their ability to support our whole school and large community events such as Anzac Day, Town Fair, Remembrance Day and assemblies is a reflection of their dedication to our school. The boys out of their 'Bat Cave' always complete jobs with a smile and magnificent attitude.

Our grounds and facilities were once again kept in tip top shape under the guidance of Mr Bill Chapman. In what is a large portfolio in the school, Bill was able to target areas of need and manage this large job on his own and was once again able to achieve success with all things grounds and facilities and assist in providing a safe environment for all. Many thanks to Bill for his drive, commitment and passion around the school. Certainly a very large job.

Led by our community liaison leader, Mrs Michelle Cosgrove, our 2018 fundraising efforts were once again quite remarkable. I sincerely would like to thank Michelle, all parents, staff and students in ensuring the fundraising efforts were productive as we target different areas around the school to support our students. Funds raised have been committed to making our playgrounds around the school safer by upgrading equipment and providing the new rubber tough, soft fall, which look spectacular. The efforts were reflected in the success of a variety of fundraisers conducted throughout 2018 including our Twilight Christmas Carols Town Fair. This was the 8th event run of this kind and was another huge success for the school and the broader, Doreen community. Funds raised at the Town Fair continue to be invested back into the school through supporting educational resources and facilities for our students. Special thanks to the vision and drive of the dedicated Town Fair Committee led by Mrs Hannah Bloomfield. They have allowed for the continued success for families and overseeing our biggest fundraiser for 2018. We would also like to thank Michelle Cosgrove and her band of volunteer helpers for the huge chocolate fundraiser. Michelle was instrumental in overseeing this committee.

Thank you to Andrew Tenson and Katerina Stojanovska, Carly Coburn, Des Chapman and the Physical Education team for planning, organising and running for the very first time the extremely successful 'Colour Fun Run'. Staff, students and parents all joined in creating such a memorable atmosphere for our students as we plotted the course together getting covered in 'Colour'. A highlight was the whole school 'Colour Explosion' on the soccer pitch and we all look forward to an even bigger and more colourful 2019 event.

We thank all parents for their time, commitment, ideas and energy to successfully support the numerous tasks that were planned for 2018 fundraisers around the school. We look forward with plenty of excitement, optimism and enthusiasm to the 2019 Fundraising calendar as we continue to

prioritise targeted areas around school that will ultimately benefit and support our students in their educational setting at Laurimar Primary.

Our 2018 school council members completed another collaborative, hard working and successful year and one that has contributed significantly to the continued vision, strong direction, growth, development and improvement for all students and their learning as we proceed towards our 11th year of operation in 2019. To Adam Clarke in his role as President as it approaches its final couple of months, we thank you for your tireless work, ideas, support, passion and leadership role within our school council. Your contribution over the past decade has been instrumental where you have helped to shape and create such a strong educational platform for the many students and families who benefit from our school. To each and every hard working and dedicated school council member, the students, staff and parents of Laurimar Primary School cannot thank you enough for the enormous amount of time away from your families, the dedication you display to our students, your high level work ethic and innovative ideas, passion for State Education and high energy levels in the important operational area of the school. This is greatly valued and appreciated by all stakeholders within Laurimar Primary.

My thanks are also extended to School Council staff representatives, Assistant Principals, Mrs Deborah Purser and Justine Convery, Stephanie Pearce/ Anna Phillips and Sam Mercuri for their important contributions throughout 2018 in giving up their time to help ensure the continued success.

Having completed now my 5th full year as Principal of our inspiring school, I am once again extremely grateful, humbled, mightily proud, privileged and honoured to be the leader of such a strong educational institution that has an outstanding reputation for providing rich educational opportunities for our students. I look forward to our continued growth in student achievement, consistency in strong attitudes of Respect and continued improvement across all areas of the school with renewed strength and energy in 2019!

In closing, congratulations to our unique and wonderful students who all bring their individual qualities and traits every day, all staff who make great things happen, supportive parents and key stakeholders from our wider school community for their support, love, dedication and care for our school, hard work and dedication through our 10th year of operation at Laurimar Primary School. Everyone should take enormous pride through your contributions, vision and hard work throughout the year to contribute to the overall success for our students and their development.

In 2019, we all look forward with high anticipation, hope, optimism and excitement to what the new school year brings through setting clearly defined learning goals for our students and school community that brings about rich success through their achievements.

Best Wishes,

Jason McBean

**Jason McBean
Principal**





Our HIGHLIGHTS and ACHIEVEMENTS for 2018 School Year

The following represents many of the successful programs, events, achievements and learning opportunities for students and staff when we look back on the wonderful memories of the 2018 school year at Laurimar Primary School. We can recall many of the engaging activities provided by our entire staff throughout the school completing a decade of operation in education. We hope that it will illicit many fond memories of the year.

School Context and the years leading up to the 2018 school year

Construction of our new school commenced back in 2008, when the Minister of Education at this time, Bronwyn Pike turned the first sod of soil on May 22nd. Construction of the new school was of a very rapid pace. Fortnightly meetings were held with the builder (WP Contractors) and school architect (Minx) to ensure progress remained on track. Many parents were of the opinion that the school would not be completed for the start of the school year. There was a huge final push by the original staff to have classrooms ready for the students to commence the first day of the 2009 school year. We opened the school for learning for our students and parents the Sunday prior to the start of the school year with 8 teachers and 113 students. Now having completed 10 full years of education, our proud school commenced the 2018 year with 968 energetic students all eager to learn and take on all opportunities before them.

Student Enrolment

On Census day, 28th February, 2018 our recorded student enrolments were at 968.4 students across 45 operational classrooms (a decrease of 1 grade from 2017) There has been a consistent plateau once again this year as we maintain enrolments in the high 900s with enrolments expected to grow slightly in 2019. Prep enrolments remained consistent with 7 grades housing 138 prep students which is testament to our enrolment officer, prep team leader and prep team. Well done to all for the work invested into our K-P transition program where the children are prepared very well.



2018 Staffing

Indeed, a highlight of the school year is the commitment and dedication to all students from our entire staff! We produced a stable 2018 workforce to cover all program planning across the school and various programs that we offer. Congratulations to all 2018 staff for their continued hard work and efforts and for their professionalism in engaging and inspiring our 1048 students. A fantastic team effort in our 9th year with well over 100 teaching and education support staff in our educational institution. To each and every one of you, congratulations on a big team effort and for your amazing attitude and approach to this deep and complex work. The commitment and dedication shown by all staff to commence another year at LPS was clearly evident across all levels during our initial start up program to commence the 2018 year. Feedback from parents throughout the year was extremely positive and there was a level of appreciation in all your work to teach, inspire, grow, develop and care for our students. There were a number of departures due to maternity leave with staff either starting or growing their families and opportunities at other schools. The most important resource and asset at any school is the staff and in ours, I am truly grateful and proud of. I very much look forward to leading and working with this group of amazing professionals once again in 2019 as we all strive forward to further improve our student learning outcomes and take Laurimar PS from good to great.

Organization / Class Sizes

Our 2018 workforce plan composition comprised the following;

45 classes at Laurimar Primary School. The following education setting was arranged accordingly;

Prep x 7, Grade 1 x 6, Grade 2 x 7, Grade 3 x 7, Grade 4 x 6, Grade 5 x 6 and Grade 6 x 6.

Class sizes were well below the state average again this year with Prep to 2 averages of 20.5 students or less and Gr.3 to 6 average of 24 students. An overall class size average across our entire school of 23.0. These figures represent excellent averages across the school and are well under the current Departmental benchmarks and expectations across the state allowing for maximum student learning for each individual.

Education Week

One of the most important events on the State Education Calendar was celebrated once again in May and provided an excellent opportunity for the school to showcase the collective talents of both students and staff of Laurimar Primary School. Many thanks to Steph Pearce for the innovative and exciting amazing Race Theme of our Open Evening.

We are extremely proud of our school and view this as an important way to showcase our great school to the wider community. There was once again an excellent response to the 2018 Grandparents Day (2500 plus grandparents) as always and is an embedded part of our school culture and history.

The open day program allowed for many parents to walk through our classrooms which were on display and see their children and teachers in action. We had a fantastic turnout on these events for Education week and many prospective parents visiting throughout. Another huge success for Laurimar Primary School in 20



Camping Program

Our 2018 camping program was once again another huge highlight of the year running very smoothly. The program comprised the Grade 1 Dinner and Disco in Term 3, Grade 2 Sleepover, Year 3 Camp to Billabong Ranch in **Echuca for a horse grooming experience**, Year 4 Camp to **Phillip Island Adventure Resort**, Year 5 Camp to **Kangarooobie near Warrnambool (second time)** and finally our Year 6 Camp to **Anglesea Recreation Camp**. Also included is our Energy Breakthrough experience and China Exchange. A special thank you to all staff and parents for making our camping program possible and the success that it was in 2018. Your commitment and time away from family is greatly appreciated. The increase in student's confidence and their ability to give things a go is clear evidence of their increased sense of independence and the positive impact of our P-6 camps program. I am sure all parents and staff would agree, it is certainly a thorough and unique camping experience that we offer our students here at Laurimar Primary School and we look forward to an even bigger and better 2019!

Out of School Hours Care/ Vacation Program

In 2018, we continued the great work of our ever-popular and highly sort after OSHC service led by our amazing program leader, Emma Renn and her dedicated program assistants Julie Bamford, , Shannon Grech and Rowena Pearson, along with their broader team of accredited workers. They have formed a dynamic and professional team who generate a homely feel for all students as they continue to benefit from the program. Having a dynamic Before and After Care Service coupled with the ever-popular Vacation Care through the holidays has our program at the forefront and is highly sort after by families in our local area. Congratulations to Emma, her entire team, Helen Haydock (OSHC program committee convenor) and her

broader team on the enormous success of the year in the OSHC program. We look forward to more innovation, activities, strategies and creative ideas through 2019's program.

Many thanks once again to our OSHC Program Leader, Emma Renn, fellow leaders Julie Bamford, Shannon Grech and Rowena Pearson and her outstanding leadership and innovation of staff for an incredible year of growth in our Mod 9 building. 2018 also had the success of another successful year of opportunity for our Vacation Care/ Holiday Program, which has been very popular and moves from strength to strength during each holiday break providing a rich and diverse opportunity for students. The programs also extends more broadly and supports the many school community initiatives including cooking club and community garden, Arts and Crafts, VIP Club, Doreen War Memorial, basketball goals, Welfare Program, security fences and gates, upgrades to playgrounds and assisted the construction of the second cover-way on the bat tennis courts. We wish Emma and her dedicated, caring and professional staff the best of luck on obtaining their goals and efforts through out 2019 and beyond.

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) Demonstration Program

As a result of the Premier, Mr Daniel Andrews visit to our school in 2017, our school was fortunate enough to be selected as the only mainstream school to run an OSHC Demonstration program that caters for students with disabilities for After School Care and Vacation Care purposes. This is such a fine reflection of us as a school and our high level of inclusiveness, acceptance, patience, tolerance and understanding. The program commenced in term 3, building up enrolments at a steady pace and continues to immerse students through the program on a daily basis and through the holidays. The OSHC Demonstration Program is something that we can all be very proud of.

STRIVE Program



One of the pleasing features of our school in 2018, was the creation, construction and commencement of the STRIVE room which is an inclusive program that caters for our funded students with additional needs. The program provides an environment and structured learning program that allows for greater student outcomes, sense of achievement and experience of success. This program opened its doors on day 1 of Term 2 and has grown from strength to strength. Students look forward to attending their 3 x 2 hour sessions per week in there.

Literacy / Numeracy Program

In 2018 we reinforced our mantra of learning at LPS with Literacy and Numeracy at the core of our curriculum and the centre of our business of what we do in every classroom each day. The staff are to be congratulated on their ability to provide all students with such a high quality Literacy and Numeracy program, practice innovation and teaching with engaging learning activities and resources in every session. They certainly demonstrate a strong commitment to professional learning and improvement in these key areas. Our 2018 Naplan Data produced another strong result in year 3 and 5 and continues to head in the right direction as we lead similar and network schools producing our best result in the 10 year history of our school. This aspect of our school is something we should all be very proud of. The results have our Year 3 cohort well above state benchmarks across all areas with large improvements in year 5 and the learning gain from year 3 to 5. Our 1-1 iPad program from Years 3-6 provides an additional tool and resource to support student learning and push to a higher level sparking curiosity amongst all children and providing engagement to support learning. We have maintained a strong culture each week of 10 hours of Literacy and 5 hours of Numeracy and is non-negotiable throughout Prep-6. We continued to consolidate in 2018 our VOICES writing structure, introduced the Sound Waves Phonics Model for spelling and



consolidated across the school our CAFE reading approach where we were able to adopt the services of experienced educational consultant Lynn Watts for Literacy and Kathy Palmer for Numeracy professional learning. All students look forward to engaging in our Laurimar RAW (Reading and Writing) program each day. Our teachers and education support staff are committed and dedicated to their continuous learning and improvement ensuring we constantly measure and monitor the improvement of student learning outcomes across the school to stretch them to higher achievements of success in their learning.

Parent Helper Classes

We again had a commitment to train, skill up and educate our parent community so that they could become parent helpers within the classroom in 2018. Robyn Greenwood and Deb Purser facilitated our Parent Helper classes throughout the year and the feedback is always very positive about building capacity. These sessions were well attended and allows for parent helpers to support our teachers and students within the classroom program. Parents are required to attend these sessions and sign confidentiality agreements when wanting to participate within classrooms. We are fortunate to have Robyn and Deb's experience and expertise in our school to run these excellent programs' for our parent community in a bid to help improve student learning outcomes both at school and at home, fortifying the partnership for learning.

2018 Energy Breakthrough Experience

An unforgettable experience was played out this year with our Year 5/6 students in the form of the 2018 RACV Energy Breakthrough up at Maryborough in November. In what was a change of event for us in 2018, our 3 well prepared teams entered for the very first time into the Try-Athlon event. 43 lucky participants had been preparing strategically across the 3 elements since June and had a memorable 4-day experience at this wonderful event. Now in its 7th year for LPS, our 3 teams, The Dragons, Phoenix and Gryphons performed admirably well for their first appearance in the event and made our school very proud by giving it their all during the 4 days and achieving top 10 finishes. We even had one of the teams win the event overall. Once again, we are very lucky to be able to provide an opportunity of this magnitude to our students due to the dedication of our staff and parents. This is all made possible due to the incredible organisation, drive, commitment, hard work and passion from Mr. Brett Hayes, ably assisted by Mr Des Chapman, Deb Purser(2018 winning Team Leader), Kim Ferguson, Tracy Sims and their support crew of passionate and hardworking teachers and parents. A special mention to Simon and Michelle Neale, for providing the mechanical and engineering expertise to allow for our vehicles to be so reliable and proficient during the event. Belinda Cooke was inspirational in her solid training, preparation and fine-tuning of the young athletes. Congratulations to all Energy Breakthrough team members involved in the 2018 event and for being such wonderful participants all performing fairly, demonstrating sportsmanship and encouragement. Our year 5/6s are very fortunate to have this memorable event.



Clubs Program

A pleasing feature of our school is the continued option for students to be a part of a club that they demonstrate a level of interest or a passion in at lunchtimes.

Our teachers work hard to provide a wide and diverse range of engaging Clubs and is a credit to the staff who lead these and to the students who take up the opportunity. I would like to thank all staff who volunteered their time at lunchtimes to give our students these fantastic opportunities and help add to the great culture of Laurimar Primary School each week. Less down time equates to less issues for students.

VIP Club

In 2018, our 3rd year of the popular VIP Club was held in our modular 9 building and is specifically designed to meet the needs of those students who may find the playground and school yard somewhat busy or overwhelming. This program was supported by teaching staff and education support staff and provided up to 50 students the opportunity to participate in hands on activities, creative crafts, problem solving, games, sensory activities and structured social interaction and skills to ensure success during lunchtimes for each individual. Many thanks to Elley Heyer and her dedicated staff for her continued vision, organization and passion for this wonderful program.

2018 Chinese/ Mandarin Program

2018 was another wonderful opportunity to reinforce our second language of Chinese from Prep-2. Led by Ms Perng Chao, Ms Jacinta Wang and our Chinese teacher assistant for 12 months, Rai Rai, the team delivered an engaging Chinese cultural and language program to all students across 45 grades. Our Prep to Year 2 students learned vocabulary and practised to introduce themselves in Chinese.

Ms Chao was the leader of a Chinese cultural club on Wednesday at lunchtime and incorporated Robotics Club where many students were often inspired and could show their creative flare. They learned traditional Chinese fan dance and ribbon dance and were very proud to perform it on Grandparents' day. Year 3 and 4 students enjoyed learning some scientific content in Chinese and was able to label parts of fruits and vegetables in target language.

Ms Wang and Ms Chao had planned fun activities for Year 5 and 6 to engage them in using Chinese in their daily life. Students are encouraged to compare languages (Chinese with English) and cultural differences. We had fourteen lucky students in Year 5 and 6 travel to China with Mrs Sims and once again Mrs Bloomfield in Term Four as part of the VPA Victorian delegation. They spent two weeks in Nanjing to learn Mandarin and experience Chinese cultural first hand at our magnificent sister school, Jinling Primary.

Laurimar Primary School was very proud to host temporary international students from China once again in 2018 and they were supported by the entire school community. They participated in daily learning routines with their Australian classmates and they also had a chance to share their Chinese knowledge with our students. Many thanks must go to all host families throughout the year who opened their homes for students or Chinese staff. Without this support, this program would not be possible.

Year 5/6 China Trip

We were very fortunate to be offered 12, year 5/6 students an incredible journey to China in 2018. Since 2014, we have made the annual Pilgrimage and commitment to 'Engaging Asia' and building strong and authentic relations with our Asian Neighbours at Jinling Primary School. For the 5th year in a row, we were part of a delegation from Victoria through our connection with the Victorian Principals' Association to travel with a party of 50 other teachers and students from five schools across Melbourne to Nanjing in the Jiangsu Province of China. Our lucky students from LPS attended 10 memorable days of schooling at Jinling Primary (population of over 3000 students over 2 campuses). Our year 5/6 adventurers once again made our school extremely proud through the many rich, culturally diverse and engaging activities that they were immersed in. Many thanks to Mrs Tracy Sims and Mrs Hannah Bloomfield for their incredible high level of commitment, hard work, organization, leadership, support and high level care that they provided our students for the 14 days away from their precious families. They both demonstrate a high level of experience and care in order for our school to be able to successfully achieve our goals when it comes to this international program.



Many thanks must go to our School Council and our supportive parents for continuing to support the vision of our Chinese Program in the school and consolidating an amazing opportunity for our students and staff.

Grade Six Graduation



On Wednesday, 19th December, LPS was able to celebrate our Grade 6 Graduation for the 2nd time at the magnificent Bendigo Bank Community Stadium in Diamond Creek. Congratulations to all involved in this memorable occasion for our graduating students and their families. Mrs Kim Ferguson, Mrs Tanya Kirkright, Mr Paul Kearney and Mr Brett Hayes for your brilliant planning, organisation, new ideas and hard work in making this fabulous venue work. To the classroom teachers Anna Maxwell, Marg Omond, Robyn Greenwood and Siobhan Quinn, well done

to you all in helping to shape this into a truly memorable evening for the near 900 plus people in attendance. This was one of those nights where you can't help but feel genuinely proud and is wonderful affirmation that this school has been an authentic learning experience for our students. It has been filled with many poignant learning opportunities for our graduating students over their previous 7 years. One of the highlights was the fun filled time warp song and dance where all students and staff were involved. We wish all graduates every success as they work their way through their Secondary School experience at 19 different schools commencing in 2019 and trust that the education at Laurimar Primary has prepared them adequately for their future. Congratulations to all Year 6 Graduates, their parents and families and our staff. We are all very, very proud!

Facilities

Throughout the year, there were a number of improvements made to our facilities for staff and students. Grounds and facilities meetings are convened through School Council where meetings are held to discuss priorities. Decisions are made regarding maintenance or introduction of new facilities or playgrounds within our school. Through working bees and other prioritised projects, significant infrastructure including our second cover way area over the bat tennis courts along with the resurfacing of two large playgrounds to rubber tough compound were completed. We take great pride in the grounds, spaces and facilities available in our school and will constantly look to improve grounds and facilities in 2019 and beyond to ultimately improve student learning outcomes. Many thanks to all families, parents and staff who helped to shape our grounds and facilities in 2018.

The Arts @ Laurimar in 2018

2018 was another productive, creative and successful year in 'The Arts' with further implementation of the Musical Futures program and our first undertaking of the Wakikirri spectacular at the Clock Tower in Moonee Ponds. The program also covered a 'felting' unit where all students worked on a landscaped project and were able to take them home.

Each week, students were immersed in an arts program that sees them express their creative ideas and talents through visual Art, Dance, Drama, Singing music.

Congratulations to Arts Leader Jayde Keenan and her dedicated team of Laura Warry, Ally Duncan, Fiona Purcell and Emily Bullen for the inspiring work taking place in the Arts Program and in particular for the hard work behind the scenes for our impressive first up try at the Wakikirri Spectacular in Moonee Ponds. We look forward to an even bigger year in the Arts in 2019 in what will be a whole school production year back at Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre.



Health, Physical and Sport Education

2018 was another energetic, outstanding and productive year for Physical Education and Sport. The team led by Phys Ed stalwart Des Chapman, Rachel Attard and Karly Coburn were able to all bring their energy, enthusiasm, expertise, professionalism and a wealth of knowledge to educating our 1000 students.

The beginning of the year saw us take on District swimming, which had LPS coming 6th overall out of all the Diamond Valley Schools.

In May, we had 60 students representing Laurimar Primary School at District Cross Country at Bundoora Park. We had a large number progress through to Division and 5 onto Regional Finals. Laila Cooke continued on to represent the Northern Metropolitan Region and LPS at the State Cross Country held at Bundoora park. Laila did us and herself so proud with a gallant performance in the wet conditions. Year 3 and 4 students are introduced to our sports program, with Year 3 students competing in their classes to become familiar with the process.

The Year 4 students are placed in teams and compete against one another each week in an intra school sport program with a ladder system and fixture being introduced.

The Prep students at LPS are very lucky to participate in our weekly PMP (Perceptual Motor Program) as very few schools run these programs. The PMP program concentrates on gross motor skills, perceptual and fundamental motor skills, such as balancing and integrates literacy and numeracy aligned with the Prep curriculum.

We had our most successful year to date in Inter School Sports in 2018. The boys' Softball and girls' Volleyball teams both progressed to Regional finals. Tanya Kirkright's Softball team narrowly missing out on making it through to the State finals, while Bec Burke's Volleyball team were out classed by some very dominant volleyball schools.

Athletics was again another success with more than 60 students competing at District level at the International track at Meadowglen. Some 30 or so athletes went on further to Division finals. Our 9/10 year old boys and girls' 4X100m relay teams competed at the Victorian State Championships again in very trying weather and all showed grit and determination well above their age! Tess Gilson and Zayne Adams both competed in Shot Put and Discus respectively, with Laila Cooke progressing but being unable to compete due to travelling to China through our exchange program.

Karly Coburn coached our Hockey 7s boys teams all the way through to winning the State Championships in late 2018. An outstanding effort with many hours put in outside of school by Karly to ensure our students' success.

2018 culminated with our swimming trials for our 2018 team to allow students time over the holidays to put in their own training and the always successful Walkathon.

The dedication and work ethic demonstrated by leaders Sarah Coloe, Des Chapman, Sarah Fennell and Carly Coburn is second to none. They are all wonderful role models when it comes to inspiring our students from Prep-6 and we look forward to building upon all the hard work in 2018.



2018 Highlights include:

- We won the District Athletics Shield – record number of students attended Division, Region and State Athletic Championships.
- We won the District Cross Country Shield.
- We came 6th in District Swimming Carnival.
- Laila Cooke received an SSV award for her Academic and Sporting achievements.

- Zane Adams received the School Sporting and PE award for 2018 for his State representation in Athletics since Grade 3 and his application in PE.
- Division A Premierships: Black Football, Black Soccer, Black Netball B
- Division B Premierships: Teal Cricket, Teal Softball

We have continued to build positive community relationships with local sporting groups within the community and have received additional funding from Sporting Schools Program to run additional quality coaching within the school.

Breakfast with the Stars



Once again in 2018 we had the generous support of the Ladies Golf Club at Yarrambat Park Golf Course are to be once again congratulated for supporting a brilliant initiative with Brett Hayes. Our 'Breakfast with the Stars' program supports children to come in and have a special breakfast with our staff and discuss why they have been recognised as a star in our school. This powerful welfare program has been hugely popular and Brett and the team of staff helpers at each breakfast have been inspirational. These breakfasts are a great morale booster for students and all staff involved. On behalf of the community, I would like to thank Brett and our staff for giving their time each morning at these

'Brekies' and in particular to the support from the ladies at Yarrambat Park Golf Club for providing the financial backing required to run such a program. We look forward to increasing this important program in 2019 and beyond.

2018 Cultural Day

Aboriginal, Indonesian, Chinese, Indian, Australian and African cultures were all celebrated along with all 44 cultures within our school on Cultural Day. Students had the opportunity to be immersed in cultural activities within the classroom and were treated to 3 special performances highlighting cultural dances and music under the assembly coverway area. This is always one of the great highlights of the year showing a high level of respect to all cultures that make up our wonderful school and celebrating the uniqueness of cultural diversity within our school and across Melbourne and Victoria. A big thank you to our cultural committee led by Perng Chao and Jacinta Wang for their vision, planning and organisation of the memorable day.



2018 Mathematics Olympiad

Extending, challenging and enriching our student learning is a large focus within our school. Congratulations to the 28 students who competed in the 2018 Mathematics Olympiad in 2018. Once again, our school produced some fantastic results through the Olympiad and we are proud of all our students to extend, challenge and reach new limits with their learning. For many students and their goals for learning, academic performance means so much to them and we are thrilled with their effort and commitment to the program. Many thanks to Emma Hollingsworth for her hard work and desire in overseeing the program and rich educational opportunities for our students



2018 Anzac Day Dawn Service



On Wednesday 25th April, we conducted our 5th, RSL endorsed Dawn Service at our beautiful Cenotaph to mark the 103rd anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings and the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Frommel. The event was once again strongly attended by our parents, staff, students and members of the broader community. Many thanks to the organising committee for the countless meetings and organisation who started setting up from 2.30am on the day. To our amazing friends from the Doreen RSL sub branch, Mr Wes

Wridgway and Diamond Creek President Mr John Chenall, we can't thank you enough for your support, friendship and continued guidance of these important ceremonies. The strong attendance was testament to just how important this memorable occasion is to our families and so many within the broader Doreen community. The event continues to grow each year. This is something that we can all take an enormous pride in at Laurimar Primary School and continue to build our strong links with our House Culture in which each student is a part of.



2018 Town Fair Spectacular and Carols Evening

Our 2018 Carols experience had a different feel led by Hannah Bloomfield and Jade Borin and their highly dedicated Town fair Committee of volunteer parents. Once again, we combined the festive season Christmas Carols with the 2018 Town Fair, bringing the school community together during the Christmas period in December. This is always an important part of the end of year calendar and Christmas Celebrations for our community. There was a great atmosphere on the night combining rides, carnival, great food, dunk the teacher, entertainment and many stalls offering a wide range of items to purchase.

All our families had a wonderful time during the Town Fair and the rides were in full swing with excitement.

In conclusion, we are so proud of our efforts and achievements of the 2018 school year, full of great memories and successes for all and this was a brilliant way to finish another productive school year at LPS. We can all be very proud and satisfied of the hard work and goal attainment for our students and look forward to adding another couple of percent in 2019 to further challenge our school and community.

Thank you, your support is much appreciated.



Learning - Partnerships – Success